

ABSTRACT

A method for determining cell-specific location information, wherein the cell-specific location information to be used in a mobile communication network is encrypted using a predetermined encryption algorithm. The geographical coverage area corresponding with a particular cell is determined and the cell-specific location information and the geographical coverage area information are stored in a database and interlinked. A cell positioning service request is transmitted from a mobile station to a service provider, the cell positioning service request including the encrypted, cell-specific location information on the mobile station and, in response to the request, the service provider retrieves from the database the geographical coverage area information corresponding with the encrypted, cell-specific location information on the mobile station in the request, and transmits a cell positioning service message to the mobile station, the cell positioning service message including at least the geographical coverage area information.

(Figure 1)